

Appl. No.: 10/701,308

Applicant: Krieter et al

Filed: November 4, 2003

TC/A.U.: 3621

Examiner: Charles Agwumeczie

Docket No.: 1300US2

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office action of March 16, 2006, please amend the above identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (previously submitted) A method for registering and communicating between a central control authorization point and a plurality of remote location devices comprising the steps of:

providing a said remote location device;

preparing said remote location device for registration;

registering said remote location device on said central control authorization point and

assigning and transmitting an encrypted address unique to each said remote location device from said central control authorization point and storing said unique address on said remote location device; and

utilizing said unique encrypted address for communication between said central control authorization point and said remote location device.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said remote location device comprises a fluid meter.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said remote location device comprises a tank level monitor.

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3 remain in this application.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogers et al in view of Pollack. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3 patentably distinguish over the rejection of record. Rogers makes no mention of an address, much less an encrypted address in any of the sections cited in the Office Action or anywhere else that the undersigned could see.

While Pollack may have unique addresses, the disclosure therein typifies prior art devices where each device or unit has a hard-coded identifier which is applied during manufacture. The norm for network devices such as Ethernet and WiFi cards is for each such device to have an address (a MAC address) assigned to the device at the factory. Applicants' claimed invention however assigns and communicates a unique identifier into each device

There is no suggestion or motivation as to how or why one would apply Pollack to Rogers and even if one did, one would merely have a prior art device with hard-coded addresses.

Claim 1 calls for the central device to be registering a remote location device on the central control device and "assigning and transmitting an encrypted address unique to each said remote location device from said central control authorization point and storing said unique address on said remote location device." These limitations are nowhere shown nor suggested in the references of record.

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Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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